AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-19 (Canceled).

20. **(New)** A method for cleaning the exhaust gas stream in the exhaust gas line (7) of an internal combustion Diesel engine (1), of particles such as soot, the exhaust gas stream being enriched with ozone, the method comprising the steps of effecting a continuous enrichment of the exhaust gas stream with ozone such that particles that are present are to a great extent oxidized even during the flow through the exhaust gas line (7), determining the concentration of the ozone essentially as a function of the particle stream, and selecting the concentration of the ozone in particular such that the remaining particle content of the exhaust gas stream does not exceed a predetermined limit value.

21. **(New)** The method of claim 20, wherein oxygen present in the exhaust gas stream and/or water is used for the ozone enrichment.

22. **(New)** The method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of generating the ozone in a reaction chamber (16) outside the exhaust gas stream.

23. **(New)** A method for regenerating a particle filter (3) in an apparatus for cleaning the exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine (1), having an ozone source (5) for enriching

the exhaust gas stream in an exhaust gas line (7) upstream of the particle filter (3), the method comprising the steps of generating ozone in the ozone source (5) and introducing the ozone into the exhaust gas line (7) in the region of the particle filter (3) after the engine (1) has been shut off.

24. **(New)** The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of increasing the ozone concentration on or in the particle filter (3) until the self-ignition of the deposited particles.

25. **(New)** The method of claim 23, comprising the further step of utilizing of a blower (17) to generate an ozone-enriched gas flow through the particle filter (3).

26. **(New)** The method of claim 24, comprising the further step of utilizing of a blower (17) to generate an ozone-enriched gas flow through the particle filter (3).

27. **(New)** The method of claim 23, comprising the further step of regulating the ozone delivery on the basis of the temperature of the particle filter (3).

28. **(New)** The method of claim 24, comprising the further step of regulating the ozone delivery on the basis of the temperature of the particle filter (3).

29. **(New)** The method of claim 25, comprising the further step of regulating the ozone delivery on the basis of the temperature of the particle filter (3).

30. **(New)** A method for operating an apparatus for cleaning exhaust gases in an exhaust gas line (7) of an internal combustion engine (1), in which a gas stream enriched with ozone is generated in an ozone source (5), the method comprising rinsing the exhaust gas line (7) at least partially with the gas enriched with ozone before the engine (1) is started.

31. **(New)** The method of claim 30, wherein the gas stream is introduced into the exhaust gas line (7) upstream of an oxidizing catalytic converter (2) whereby at least the oxidizing catalytic converter (2) is rinsed with the ozone- enriched gas before the engine (1) is started.

32. **(New)** The method of claim 31, further comprising controlling the combustion in the engine immediately after the engine (1) is started, such that the exhaust gases still contain combustible hydrocarbons.

33. **(New)** The method of claim 30, further comprising effecting an enrichment, in particular a degressive enrichment, of the exhaust gas stream with ozone generated by the ozone source (5) until the operating temperature of the oxidizing catalytic converter (2) is reached.

34. **(New)** The method of claim 31, further comprising effecting an enrichment, in particular a degressive enrichment, of the exhaust gas stream with ozone generated by the ozone source (5) until the operating temperature of the oxidizing catalytic converter (2) is reached.

35. **(New)** The method of claim 32, further comprising effecting an enrichment, in particular a degressive enrichment, of the exhaust gas stream with ozone generated by the ozone source (5) until the operating temperature of the oxidizing catalytic converter (2) is reached.

36. **(New)** The method of claim 30, wherein the rinsing with ozone-enriched gas is effected during the preglow phase of the Diesel engine.

37. **(New)** The method of claim 31, wherein the rinsing with ozone-enriched gas is effected during the preglow phase of the Diesel engine.

38. **(New)** The method of claim 32, wherein the rinsing with ozone-enriched gas is effected during the preglow phase of the Diesel engine.

39. **(New)** A motor vehicle having an internal combustion engine, in particular a Diesel engine, having a control unit (6) for controlling at least the combustion process of the engine (1), with a computation device, in particular a microprocessor, for performing a method of claim 20.